

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2889
ANSWERED ON:22.03.2005
ANGANWADI KENDRAS
Prabhu Shri Suresh Prabhakar; Verma Shri Rajesh

Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) the main functions of the Anganwadi Kendras;
- (b) whether any new/additional programmes are being implemented through these Anganwadi Kendras;
- (c) if so, the details, thereof;
- (d) the number of anganwadis have full time employees and what has been the addition to the number during the last five years, State-wise;
- (e) the number of Anganwadi workers at present, State-wise;
- (f) the criteria of appointment of Anganwadi workers;
- (g) whether there is shortage of Anganwadi workers; and
- (h) if so, the details thereof; State-wise alongwith the action taken or proposed to be taken by the Union Government in this regard?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI KANTI SINGH)

(a) Anganwadi Centre is the focal point for delivery of services under the Integrated Child Development Services (ICDS) Scheme. The package of services under the Scheme comprises supplementary nutrition, immunization, health check-up, referral services, preschool non-formal education and nutrition and health education.

(b) and (c) In addition to ICDS, nutrition component of Pradhan Mantri Gramodaya Yojana (PMGY) and a Pilot Project, in 51 districts, to provide free foodgrains to undernourished adolescent girls and pregnant women and lactating mothers, initiated by the Planning Commission in 2002-03, are implemented through Anganwadi Centres.

(d) and (e) Each operational Anganwadi is managed by an Anganwadi Worker and a Helper who are honorary workers from the local community and are paid fixed monthly honoraria, as decided by the Government from time to time. State-wise number of sanctioned/operational Anganwadis during the last five years is given in the statement annexed.

(f) As per guidelines of the Scheme, the Angan-wadi worker has to be a lady (18-44 years) from the local village. However, State Governments are competent to take an appropriate view regarding age, qualification etc.

(g) and (h) In some States, all Anganwadi Centres sanctioned by the Government of India have not been made operational. There has been constant emphasis on the States/UTs to operationalise all the sanctioned anganwadis as early as possible. As a result, the number of operational Anganadi Centres has increased from 545714 as on 31.5.2003 to 600391 as on 31.3.2004 and to 698672 as on 31.12.2004 as given in the statement enclosed.